

OREM CITY COUNCIL/ALPINE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING  
56 North State, Orem, Utah  
June 24, 2015

*This meeting was for discussion purposes only. No official action was taken.*

CONDUCTING	Mayor Richard F. Brunst, Jr.
OREM ELECTED OFFICIALS	Councilmembers Margaret Black, Mark Seastrand, and Brent Sumner
OREM STAFF	Steven Downs, Assistant to the City Manager; Scott Gurney, Fire Department Director; Gary Giles, Police Department Director; and Donna Weaver, City Recorder
ALPINE BOARD OF EDUCATION	Paula Hill, JoDee Sundberg, and Deborah Taylor
ALPINE SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMIN.	Sam Jarman, Superintendent; Rob Smith, Assistant Superintendent
ABSENT/EXCUSED	Councilmembers Hans Andersen, Tom Macdonald, and David Spencer
INVOCATION	Schoolboard member JoDee Sundberg

Mayor Brunst called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m.

**Items of Common Interest**

Mayor Brunst welcomed new Superintendent Sam Jarman and invited those in attendance to introduce themselves.

DISCUSSION – Summerfest parade route

Mrs. Sundberg asked about Orem allowing people to set up blankets a week before the Summerfest parade claiming a spot along the parade route.

Mayor Brunst said they had discussed the issue and found they did not have the staff to police people placing blankets along the parade route. They were also concerned about people leaving with a bad feeling about the event. He believed there were more people lining the parade route than he had seen before.

DISCUSSION – Candy bomber Gail Halvorsen

Mr. Downs said the City learned about Gail Halvorsen coming to Orem from the Cries of Freedom program. He reviewed the plan for the candy drop and the safety precautions that would

be in place. He said it was for children ages six through twelve, and there would be veterans in the area with bags of candy for any children who may not get one of the parachute candies.

#### DISCUSSION – Music at Westmore Elementary

Mr. Jarman said Westmore Elementary School principal John Shelton will be introducing music to the upper grades, 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>. The program will give all the children an opportunity to play a violin. It would be an experience unique to the district. Some elementary schools had some unique language programs, and Mr. Shelton was hoping to draw some students for the program. The Provo District had a Title 1 school with a similar program; Westmore Elementary was also a Title 1 school. An emphasis in music helps children to succeed in other education areas. The program was funding through a grant.

Mrs. Black asked if the children would own the violins.

Mr. Jarman said they would not. They would use them for their session and then other children would use them.

#### DISCUSSION – Mountain View High School summer classes

Mr. Jarman said Mountain View High School (MVHS) was one location that offered summer classes. He said last year the Alpine School District graduated 90.3 percent of the students, and they hoped to improve on that. Five percent of the student could never qualify for a diploma because they were special needs students. Those students would receive a certificate.

Mayor Brunst asked about the Alpine Transition and Education Center (ATEC).

Mr. Jarman said it was a skill center for special needs students to teach them life skills. Another similar school was called Horizon to the west. ATEC had approximately 250 students. Once students turned twenty-two, they would graduate with a certificate of completion. The Dan Peterson School in American Fork, Utah was for children who were confined to their beds, on life support, or needing to be strapped into their chairs. Those classes need almost one on one help with the students.

#### DISCUSSION – Digital Learning

Mayor Brunst said he had spoken with a digital learning group who were working with Senator Howard Stephenson to put forward a bill to fund more digital learning. They would like to bring in more trained professionals to teach the teachers how to carry out the programs. He asked how the Alpine School District planned to use the funding they had already received, and how to get more technology in the schools.

Mrs. Sundberg said the legislation was called a vendor bill and the district did not like them because they became prescriptive and money went to the vendors. Vendor bills limited how local schools could use the money. The \$17 million from S.B. 97 was not part of the vendor bill and had anything to do with digital learning. The annual money Alpine School District will receive from S.B. 97 will lift the Alpine School District's average up. The district had high growth and low funding, and the bill would be a great benefit.

Mrs. Black asked if the bill was for equalization, and Mrs. Sundberg said that is was and would be a great opportunity for Alpine School District. She also clarified that not all Utah districts

would benefit from S.B. 97 because some districts did not meet the high growth/low funding requirement.

Mayor Brunst asked how to increase technology in the schools without a vendor bill.

Mrs. Sundberg clarified that the “vendor” part of the bill was the issue. They hoped the State trusted school boards enough to determine how to use those monies. She said it would cost approximately \$700 million to properly fund technology in every school for every student.

Mr. Jarman said the first thing was to make sure the infrastructure was in place and then educators needed professional development to be familiar with the technology. Once teachers had that training they could pass along that knowledge to their students. The goal of using technology in the classroom was to help improve learning and create globally prepared students and citizens.

Mayor Brunst commented that President Holland of Utah Valley University (UVU) was pleased with the funding they would receive. He added it was impressive that Alpine School District was receiving so much State funding, and Mrs. Sundberg said Alpine School District was twice the size of UVU so it was no surprise.

#### DISCUSSION – 100th Anniversary of Alpine School District

Mr. Jarman gave an overview of some of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events, including an all-employee celebration on August 17, 2015. He said the American system of education fostered creativity. Many students came from other countries to attend American colleges for that very reason. Alpine School District had a partnership with South Korea, and they had sent a representative to observe teachers and learn about the extended school program. He said the initial walk through of a high school the Korean representative was amazed at the auditorium in the school. Korean students only studied core subjects, and the only way for students to participate in extracurricular activities was through private providers.

Ms. Taylor said Alpine School District was the largest district in the state, but they had split the district into “clusters”, which gave the district a smaller feel despite its size. There were ten clusters within the district, and there were processes in place to allow for people to have input. She said the Mountain View cluster had been one of the most innovative in the district.

Ms. Hill said Utah was unique. She spoke with school district representatives from California that were surprised that board members in Utah would visit the schools and were familiar with school administrators.

Mr. Downs said he was in the process of putting together some plans for Orem’s 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and hoped to include information about this history of the Alpine School District.

Mr. Jarman said there would be two hard-bound books that the district had made specifically to give to the City with Alpine School District’s history, and they were happy to share any photos or videos they had.

#### DISCUSSION – 2016 Alpine School District Bond

Mr. Jarman said the district would need to go out for a bond in the next year. He said the bond was necessary, and they would make sure it would be an amount that would be reasonable. Projects would be identified that would benefit each area of the district. The district would typically need a bond every four or five years because of the consistent growth of the district, and Ms. Hill added that there were bonds that retired.

Mr. Seastrand said he remembered a time years ago when there was concern with how to better work with the district to meet the needs in Orem. He felt these joint meetings had been beneficial for all parties involved.

Mrs. Sundberg agreed that the collaboration had been beneficial and educational for both sides.

#### DISCUSSION – School Security Solutions

Mayor Brunst said he had invited representatives from a security company that specialized in school security to attend but their travel had been delayed. He reviewed how their security program would work if there was someone with a gun or knife at a school.

Mr. Jarman asked if the company representatives understood that Utah tended to be a gun-toting state, and Mayor Brunst said he had not mentioned that.

Ms. Taylor said there were interagency meetings discussing school security, and some schools conducted lock-down drills.

Chief Giles said he had seen school security softwares where teachers had applications on their phones where they could contact any active officer in the geographical area in the case of an emergency. It would GPS locate the distress call and contact 911 dispatch as well.

Mr. Jarman said they had not looked into those kinds of products. He said schools had cameras in strategic areas, and in some cases law enforcement could potentially access the system. The dilemma even that system and those cameras were in need of updates. He also said about 80 percent of the buses now had cameras, which had helped a lot.

Chief Giles said he was not aware of Orem officers having authority to access the camera systems, and he would be interested in meeting with the district's safety representatives. He said officers needed access to the school's floor plans and be provided updates as remodels were done.

Chief Gurney said having access to up-to-date floor plans was vitally important from the fire department's perspective. If the use of the room or area changed, they needed to be aware of that as well.

#### Set Date and Time for Next

The next meeting was scheduled for August 26, 2015, at noon in Orem.

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

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Donna R. Weaver, City Recorder

Approved: August 25, 2015